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T H E
UNCOMMON ADVENTURES
O F

Miss Kitty F****r.
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L O N D O N:
Printed for THOMAS BAILEY, 1759.



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O F
Miss Kitty F****r.

I N the good city of Madrid, the capital of Spain, there is a quarter which is best rendered in English by the word *Soholio*. Here lived an honest man called John F——r, a silver chaser by trade, and his wife Kate was jolly, good natured, and housewifely. They married for the sake of mutual convenience, and had lived together upwards of a twelvemonth without quarrelling. John was a German by birth and of course now and then uttered a volley of oaths but he meant no harm, and Kate was tacit; so that we may conclude they might have fairly claim'd the fitch of Bacon, had they been in England.

John



John began to question his abilities, and his neighbours jeer'd him, for his wife was not yet pregnant; *All in good time* he would say *we had better have too few than too many.* This was only the copy of his countenance, and at length his wife grew big. His countenance cleared up, and he in turn laughed at his neighbours—*See there* he would cry, *as his wife passed along she is not without her stowage—let a German alone for being a workman—I told you I'd do it.*

Kate approached her time with all the favourable symptoms of pregnancy; she had the best advice Madrid afforded, and was safely delivered at the end of nine months to an hour, according to John's reckoning. He got drunk that night, and remained so the whole week. This is the manner of expressing our joy in England, and so it is in other northern climes; but in Spain they are quite unacquainted with this demonstration of felicity. His neighbours thought him mad, *Poor man, they cried, his success has turn'd his brain.* Had he remained intoxicated another day, he would have been confined for life in a bedlam.

At the end of this time his money was all gone, and his liquor exhausted; his neighbours thinking him non compos, would not trust him for more, so that he was obliged to be sober, in spite of inclination.

The first thing he saw, when he emerged from intoxication, was little Kitty, he flew at her in

such raptures, and so bespattered her with kisses and fondness, that had not the nurse and a caudle-gossip interfered, the child would certainly have died under the operation.

When all the ceremony of lying-in was over, John again applied himself to work, but was so fond of his young daughter that he could not be without her, and as his work-shop was too cold for the infant, he converted the nursery into one. When young Kitty was inclined to sleep, all business was at a stand, because she must not be disturbed; his own hammer, and that of his 'prentice and two journeymen, where all laid down together, as soon as the signal was given for sleep. By these frequent interruptions he commonly paid his workmen at the weeks end more than he, his 'prentice, and they had all earned; so that we need not be surprized to find, that by the time Kitty was three months old, John was upon the brink of going to a Jail.

He played at hide and seek with the bailiffs, and a female relation of his wife had not, out of compassion for his circumstances, taken the child from him and sent it to nurse, he would have perished with Kitty for want, through mere fondness of her.

As soon as his daughter was removed he resumed his work with his usual assiduity, and in a few weeks recovered himself and his affairs. Trade went merrily on, and Kate was buxom. Thus they

they lived, seeing their daughter once a week, till she could go alone; when John would no longer let her remain at nurse, but brought her home.

She soon began to prattle, and John thought her a prodigy. He already discovered more sense and reason in her than in a grown person, and swore it should be improv'd. The child, it must be own'd, was sprightly, and chattered now and then to the purpose; she was agreeable in her person, and had a great feature-resemblance of her father. Her birth day was kept with as many demonstrations of joy as if she had been an infant of Spain, when his table bended with Germanic hospitality.

Such was the conduct of her parents in the early part of her life, which bespoke her a spoiled child. As soon as she was big enough to go without leading-strings she was dressed like the child of a nobleman, which could not fail making her be taken notice of, as she was frequently carried in public by a maid, who was kept on purpose to wait upon her, Donna L —, who had no children of her own, was greatly taken with the child, as she was walking in a public garden near Madrid, which pretty nearly resembles our park. The lady inquired of her maid whose child she was, and being informed, she could not help testifying her surprize at the extravagance of her dress.

She took down the directions, and sent for honest John to chase her a pair of candlesticks, and enquired

enquired concerning his daughter. He replied, she was the darling of his heart, and if she was to die, he believed he should not long survive her. The lady then asked him, if he should like to see her shine in a more elevated sphere than that of a mechanic's daughter? To which he replied, he should. She told him she would take her and bring her up as her own daughter. He seemed at first to be highly pleased with the proposal, but when the lady came next day to take Kitty in her coach, according to agreement, poor John sobbed, and cried, *He could not part with her, for that if he did not see her every hour, he was the most miserable man alive.* The lady pitied his weakness, and all Kitty's prospect of grandeur disappeared with the lady.

This advantageous offer in favour of Kitty, gave John a greater opinion of his daughter's merit, he became still more lavish in ornamenting her person. Industrious Kate was all this while highly provoked at her husband's folly, and frankly prognosticated he would be the cause of his own and his daughter's ruin. She would fain have had him accept the lady's offer, and was preparing to carry the child to her, when an unexpected blow on the side of Kate's temple brought her to the ground, and prevented her journey.

This was the first act of hostility that had yet been committed since the treaty of their marriage; but when war is once declared it seldom ends without

out some bloody noses; so John and Kate frequently had a bout, to the no small uproar of the neighbourhood, or diversion of their neighbours. One evening they were somewhat more turbulent than usual, John struck Kate with very little provocation, Kate seized the poker that was heated red in the fire, and pursued her antagonist; he flew to the street, and she after him; Miss screamed; John cried murder! watch! watch! They came; he charged his wife; but they would not take her. The poker being cooled, and with it her courage, they returned quietly home. John was now afraid of his wife's mettle, and he dealt his blows more sparingly.

Kitty now approached her fifth year, and her father imagined it was time to think of her learning and accomplishments. As he would not venture her out of his sight, he had a master to teach her to read, and afterwards to write, another for dancing, and proposed a third for music, as soon as he could raise money enough to purchase a harpsichord.

Female vanity could not fail being nourished by this early culture. Miss began already to study her glass; she could ogle, dimple her cheeks, and frown at pleasure; she was a very coquet in miniature. She was so much taken up with these female accomplishments, that she made very little progress in reading and writing — She had a greater disposition for dancing — she was as great a

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proficient in the drop curtsey as Miss A——, and did the minuet step very prettily.

Thus we find Kitry in the high road to being a girl of spirit, so early as her sixth year, when she occasionally wore a patch, to give grace to a side lear, and began to enquire how they made use of rouge.

John, who grew every day more enamoured with his child, thought of nothing but rendering her an accomplished woman; she had received the first tincture of her education under his own eyes, and he was thoroughly satisfied with her genius; but he had always entertained a notion, that a woman could not be politely educated, without being sent to the boarding school. He accordingly enquired for one of the genteelest near Madrid, as a place which may be translated in English Hammersmito.

Hither Kitty was sent in her seventh year. She found a mistress, who behaved to her extremely polite, praised her curtseying and dancing, assuring her she would soon make one of Monsieur D——'s best Scholars.

The first day she was taken out to dance, her little heart fluttered at exhibiting before so numerous an assembly. There were twenty Boarders, besides herself, her mistress, the French teacher, and usher, all spectators. In the confusion, she trod upon her hanging sleeve coat, and tript herself up, when she displayed as high as her garter.

Her

Her school-fellows tittered and her master in taking her up, blushed.— Poor Kitty was all over scarlet, and could not recall courage enough to go on with the minuet. Her mistress solaced her, by telling her such an accident might happen to any young lady, and not to let that discourage her, Miss G——, who was much about her age, and had such an accident happen to her a few days before, could not refrain from tears on the occasion.

In this boarding school Kitty remained upwards of six years, in which time she acquired as many accomplishments as are esteemed requisite for a young lady, such as musick, danceing, French, Italian; with the different kinds of needle-work, for which the women have so many names.

Kitty was now come to that age, when all the seeds of coquetry were in full blossom, her father still supporting her in all the extravagance of dress, and the resorting to every public place.

But amongst all her professed lovers, whose purses were profusely opened to entertain her wherever she went, there was not one who had ever mentioned the word matrimony, but in ridicule. This made her suspect the uprightness of their designs. and they frequently professed how happy should they be in the enjoyment of so fine a creature.

But though in all the circle of her polite acquaintance she was not likely to gain a husband, she had made a conquest not unworthy of her,

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had

had she prudently considered her birth and fortune. A wealthy tradesman's son, a pewterer in her own neighbourhood, had long entertained a real and honest passion for her and only sought the opportunity to declare himself; but the volatile gay Kitty, ever flew from him, when he began to sigh, and ask her if she could love, in replying, *not to sigh with so dull a swain.*

Thus she trifled and ridiculed a man who would have made her happy. All her coquetry served but to tan his flame, and finding her flighty disposition would never give him time to seriously propose himself in marriage, he wrote her the following honest letter.

DEAR KITTY,

I HAVE often endeavoured to inform you of my intentions, but you have either turned the discourse, in such a manner as to prevent my making a declaration, or abruptly left me to talk to myself. I impute this to your youth, and the gaiety of your disposition, which I do not look upon as a fault in you as it may be easily corrected. You see, I am frank and ingenuous,—perhaps it may disgust, but cannot deceive you. I expect you will be as honest in your answer, which I hope you will favour me with, as soon as you have had time seriously to consider these contents. I am dear Kitty, with great love and esteem,
Your devoted servant,

This

This was the first letter of the kind Kitty ever received, and though her pride was somewhat mortified in thinking of a tradesman as a husband, she was not displeased at the openness of the declaration, and having it in her power to be a wife if she chose it.

She thought that an affair of such importance the advice of some other person, and she could think of none so proper as her father.

He startled when he first read the letter, *What said he, have I given you a gentlewoman's education, taught you Italian, French, music, and dancing, to be the wife of a pewterer? no, such qualifications, and such a figure as yours, may very well claim the first grandee of Spain.*

These sentiments so entirely chimed in with Kitty's notions, that she did not attempt to contradict him, but was glad to find she had the authority of her father to plead for her excuse. She accordingly answered the young pewterer's love epistle, in apologizing for her not yet entering into the holy state he did her the honour to propose, by reason of her youth and inexperience, and that moreover the authority of a parent had put it out of her power to dispose of her hand to him.

The youth was inconsolable at this answer, she had so entirely rivitted his affections. His relations took him home, and tried every means to divert his melancholy, but all to no purpose.

—Doctors, in vain, prescribed for his disorder,

which a kind word from Kitty would have easily cured.

The different attacks upon, and proposals made to Kitty, with the great regard her father paid to her superior merit, flushed the girl with an opinion that she should never give her hand to less than an earl. This, with her late success upon the unhappy pewterer, made her give herself such insupportable airs, that none of her former acquaintance dared to keep her company.

The first malignant symptoms of her dangerous vanity appeared in a gold watch, which she persuaded her father, who could very ill afford it, to purchase her; from this time she thought the fresh air would be fatal to her disorder, and a sedan chair was called [by her father] upon every occasion, to transport her wherever she proposed going.

Heretofore she thought herself very happy, when she could see a play in the gallery or the pit; but she now found out that it was very fatiguing to go at five o'clock, and wait a whole hour before the curtain drew up; that to pop into the boxes precisely at six, was elegant and agreeable. From these considerations, she rejected all gallery and pit parties, and was so immoderate as to pique herself upon being a girl of spirit.

A girl of spirit, is one who will assist in a riot at a play-house, ride a race for a hundred—drive her own Phaeton, if she has got one,—walk arm in arm with a couple of young fellows in public,—
talk

talk loud at church, and put the parson out of countenance,—have no objection to a tête à tête party at a tavern.—and do any thing but one, to indulge or gratify her attendant.

Kitty was by this time, though but fourteen, thoroughly disposed for all this, and in order to complete the character, as far as she was able, seduced her father to purchase her a riding habit, which was white with a silver binding, and with it she wore a pint d'espagne hat, with a white feather. A young gentleman, who professed himself her admirer, furnished her with a horse, and they frequently took an airing together.

This was sufficient for the world to pronounce her kept; nor had her lover, perhaps, so good an intent, after enjoyment.

He accompanied her one evening to the play in the upper boxes, and afterwards begged of her to eat a bit of something at an adjacent tavern, as the entertainment had been long, and she must certainly have lost her supper at home. Few arguments prevailed upon Kitty to accept the invitation. An elegant entertainment was ordered, and the wine briskly circulated.

After the repast, her lover began to open his mind to her, and sealed every declaration with an amorous kiss — Kitty, as yet, shewed no dislike to his approaches, and she thought she had sufficient fortitude to withstand his utmost attacks, when they became critical. He began to
grow

grow more famelier with her person; and from a thorough acquaintance with her lips, he introduced himself to her hidden charms; and the whiteness of her bosom exposed. She had not yet chid him in earnest, as she reconciled the innocence of these familiarities to herself; but when he praised the neatness of her leg, and was inquisitive with, his hand, to know how high she gartered, she took the alarm and sprung from him with great agility, at the same time protesting against any further rudeness. He at first took great pains to sooth her into compliance, exhausting all his logic and argumentation, to prove the rectitude and fornication; but when he found she was resolutely bent upon not consenting, he took the hint from her, and became seriously resolved upon making her. He fastened the door, in telling her it was in vain for her to think to escape him, for that all the noise she could make would signify nothing in that house; that when a woman once consented to come with a man alone to a tavern, it was the same thing as if she consented to all he proposed; that the waiters, and people of that place, would not come to her assistance, and that therefore she might as well comply as oblige him to force her inclinations.

Finding herself in this situation, she fell upon her knees, and with tears supplicated his forbearance. But still her prayers were fruitless, and he remained inexorable.

She

She now struggled to defend herself, and for sometime opposed his greatest effort; but at length his superior force made her weakness succumb. She screamed and bawled as her last resource, but as he had pre-informed her, no attention was made to her outcries.

There was now no obstacle to possession, and she was necessitated to submit; when he relinquished his prize, at the discovery he made. He cursed his ill-fated stars for giving him so fair an opportunity, at so critical a time, and permitted her to depart with her virginity, upon condition of making an appointment for three days after.

This last narrow escape had so clearly pointed out to our heroine the danger of keeping up the character of a girl of spirit, that she resolved to give up all pretensions to it. But she had gone too far, and Don Menfario, who had been so familiar with her at the tavern, plagued her with repeated messages, to fulfil her engagement. She gave a deaf ear to all his solicitations, this produced from him a threatening letter, wherein he menaced to divulge what lengths he had gone with her, and blast her reputation in every coffee-house in Madrid.

This renewed all Kitty's apprehensions, and she began to think she was as much ruined, as if she had agreed to his intreaties. He at the same time employed a procuress to get acquainted with her which she easily did, by being frequently at the
milliner's

milliner's where Kitty made her purchase. An invitation early ensued to drink a dish of tea, and after the first or second visit, the old lady made no scruple to tell Kitty her thoughts. *My dear (said she) I am surprized so fine a creature as you, who is the adoration of all Madrid, should shut yourself up with two old surly parents, when you might shine with the greatest splendor of grandee's lady in Spain.*

Kitty naturally enquired how this was to be performed, and the other as readily answered. *There are fifty men to my knowledge, who would throw all the riches of the new world at your feet, if they were in possession of them, for nothing but what you wish to be rid of, though you are too shy to ask the favour of any man.*

Our heroine soon took the hint, and replied, *she could not think of prostituting herself for hire, to be the empress of the gibe*

You mistake the thing (resumed the beldam) it is no prostitution to admit the embraces of a man that you like; but if your father should, as in all likelihood he may, force you to marry the man you detest, then you certainly prostitute yourself, to gratify the capriciousness of a headstrong parent.

Kitty returned, that the authority of her father should not compel her to marry the man she should not be happy with. The surest way, then, [says grey-hairs] to avoid it, is to dispose of yourself beforehand.

These

These words were scarce out of the old lady's mouth, before Don Mensario entered, and listening his forces under the banner of incontinence. Kitty was forced to agree to capitulate the next day.

John, who was as anxious after Kitty's welfare had got intelligence of her new acquaintance, with the dangerous tendency of it. This information rendered him dumb and motionless for some time. At length regaining the use of his faculties, he flew to a neighbouring peace officer, and told him, that a bawd had seduced his dear child, his only daughter; and that if he did not go with him that instant, he should be inevitably ruined. The constable, [for so we shall call him] taking his staff of authority, repaired with John to the house of the old lady, where having knocked, and gained admittance into the entry, they broke open the parlour door [which was not locked] to get Kitty. The old lady and Don Mensario imagined that thieves had broke in to rob them, which induced him to draw his sword in their defence; but Kitty informing them it was her father, their astonishment was still greater. As soon as the cavalier had sheathed his sword, the constable produced his token of authority, and forced Kitty into a hackney coach, notwithstanding all the remonstrances of her lover, and the beldame, whom he threatened with indictments for keeping a brothel.

Horace John's greatest concern was still for his daughter, whom he was now no longer able to support. He worked as a journeyman, but trade being very dead he could not always find employ, and his full wages would not have been sufficient for their maintenance. He therefore made a collection amongst his friends for a sum sufficient for to set Kitty up in a milliner's shop, which, though she was quite unacquainted with, she agreed to enter upon.

We now view our heroine behind the counter, in her father's house, measuring out ribband, and adjusting commodos. She was for some time extremely assiduous, and by means of renewing her ancient acquaintance with some of her former school fellows, she gained a sum sufficient to live upon: but her natural disposition for gaiety always predominating, she always relaxed from her severe applications, and frequented public places.

So agreeable a figure behind a counter had attracted the attention of all the young fellows who passed that way, who generally dropt in to purchase a ribbon or a pair of gloves, and these easily prevailed upon her, after the first or second visit, to accept of a ticket for the play, so that her diversions were little or no expence to her, except that they took up her time, and prevented her minding her business.

At the same time there were two women in Madrid who made a great noise, and attracted the attention

tention of the whole metropolis: their names were miss Murrio and miss Cupero. The first was handsome without being genteel, and the last genteel without being handsome. They had passed through a series of prostituted adventures from low extraction, and had arrived at the point of keeping their equipage, and being the general toasts of the gay and polite. Miss Murrio had at this time no certain support, but laid all Madrid under contributions; whilst miss Cupero was kept by a knight, who doated upon her and all her extravagancies. The success of these two women operated upon the minds of most of the girls of an ambitious turn in Madrid; those who were handsome, saw every time they looked in the glass all the conquest and grandeur that attended miss Murrio; and those who were ordinary, had they a tolerable shape, or a smartness of rapier, solaced themselves with miss Cupero's glory. The example of these two women were greater incentives to prostitution than all the arts of men, or the force of inclination.

Kitty was one night at the play in the gallery, when these two heroines sat in the opposite boxes to each other; and tho' all the rest of them were quite empty, these two were filled with the finest cavaliers of Madrid. This excited Kitty's curiosity to know who they were, and being informed, vanity and envy led up all the troop of insatiable passions. *Have I not charms far beyond either of them! Am not I young, beautiful, and genteel,—*

sensible and polite ! and shall these reign sole tyrants of the hearts of Madrid, whilst I move in the humble sphere of a milliner ? Not to be borne. In repeating this soliloquy to herself, she took a full resolution of trying all the arts of women to get a genteel husband or at least a rich keeper.

Our heroine was not so entirely divested of credulity, as to disbelieve all fattery, was fraud and imposition. Several of her acquaintance had had their fortunes told, and the very things had happened that were predicted. One, who was upon the point of marrying a young grocer, went with her to a conjuror's to have her fortune told, and she was informed she would certainly be married to the person who accompanied her the next day, and the thing came to pass. It is true, the lover had a conference with the old gentleman first, but we must not conclude from thence, that he gave him any insight into the affair. Another, who had lost a favourite dog, went to the cunning man to know where she could find it, and he told her it would be brought home the next day, upon conditions she paid two guineas as a gratuity. She had her dog. Some say the forcerer passed by her door the very day it was lost, and it was seen by some to follow him; but this must have been an idle report, except one can imagine that so great and learned a man as an astrologer would turn dog-stealer.

However,

However, these and many more equally extraordinary prognostications prevailed upon Kitty to believe that these cunning men were cunning men indeed; and she resolved to have her fortune told.

The conjuror to whom she proposed applying too, lived near the place where the criminals are tried (not unlike our Old-Baily.) Thither she went with a female acquaintance, who being still more eager than Kitty to know her destiny, would retire with the old gentleman first, and she came out of the closet fully satisfied with killing half a dozen husbands before she was thirty.

The French happily call fortunetellers, *Disseurs de bonnes aventures*, for they never tell you any thing to displease you for your money. If indeed an accident or misfortune is to happen, it is quite transitory; but they most frequently nip it in the bud, and like lovers in a comedy, or a novel, you are married and happy at last.

Kitty being introduced into the astrologer's closet, he enquired the year, day, and hour of her birth; which she told him as near as she could remember and was informed, he then examined the lines of her hands and those of her face, and asked what particular moles she had? She answered she had none in sight, but had a large one under her left breast; he told her he must see it, but she would not consent to so indecent an inspection. He said it would be in vain for him to attempt telling her fortune without seeing it; that the prognostics
hitherto

hitherto were very favourable; he had already cast her nativity, and found she was born under Jupiter, whereby it was plain she would be blest with pleasure and riches; but that this more alone would decide the extent of her power, for that though this planet was of very being influence with respect to authority, it was generally considered as relating to the policy of states.

Such a world of learning, pleasure, and riches, intoxicated poor Kitty, and she thought she should spoil her fortune for ever, if she did not shew him her mole, she therefore unlaced her stays without any fear or hesitation. As soon as her snowy bosom was disclosed, the old gentleman put on his spectacles with great eagerness, and examined her mole, whilst he with some transport handled her pouting hemispheres, crying at the same time, Amazingly great! surprizing power! wonderful dominion! Kitty was so attentive to the harmony of the words, that she paid no regard to the indecency of his action, though he continued near a quarter of an hour with one hand upon her bosom, and the other under his night gown, which seemed to vibrate with uncommon elasticity; he at length flobbered her bosom with kisses, which he pretended was only to felicitate the fortunate mole, which was the certain testimony of her future power over the hearts of men.

She now perceived what he was at, and began to be under great apprehensions he would go still
more

more indecent lengths ; but whether he had vented the feavor of his love, or had surmounted it, we will not pretend to decide ; but he was so far master of his art as to impute all his conduct to the inquest of her stars.

He then resumed his pen, ink and paper, and having made various figures and calculations, he read over to her their neat produce, the sum total of which amounted to this.

That she would be the reigning toast of the first nobility in Spain; at once the only object of the woman's envy, and the men's adoration. That all the present triumphant beauties would be talked of no more. Miss Rocia, miss Murrio, or miss Cupero's name no longer mentioned; but she alone would engross the whole conversation of the beau monde of Maarid, whilst she rolled in the most magnificent equipage, and lived in the sumptuous splendor of the first dutchess of Spain.

Such a lot could not fail putting a girl of Kitty's disposition into good spirits; and though she suspected the wise man's continence, and he would have been very well satisfied without any pecuniary recompence, she gave him a guinea, though his usual fee was but half a crown.

As soon as the two nymphs had retired from the conjuror they began to compare notes, and though Kitty's companion had at first thought six dead husbands a very comfortable dower, she began to think the cunning man had not dealt so well by her

her as Kitty, whom he had given so many living lovers; and she had a great mind to go back to him to have it a little altered, as she imagined he had forgot to tell her the man she should be happy with: But Kitty persisting in not returning, lest he might recant some part of her future glory, she was prevailed upon to defer the visit 'till the next day, when she was resolved to go with another young lady of her acquaintance, and give it him for not telling her as good a fortune as he had Kitty.

The flattering hopes which the fortune-teller had inspired her with, gave her an entire disrelish to attending her shop and her business; and she relied so much upon his favourable prognostications, that she made up most of her goods in her shop for her own wear, and though she had a very decent wardrobe of cloaths for a milliner, she purchased two or three new suits. She then frequented public places more than ever.

Her father had by this time in some measure recovered his circumstances; his creditors having found he was honest, though indigent were as favourable as possible to him, so that he was in a short time enabled to work for himself. He still lived in the same house, the shop of which was occupied by his daughter; and though his tenderness for Kitty made him overlook great numbers of her foibles and extravagancies, yet he was so thoroughly convincee now of her inconsiderateness,

ness, by turning almost her whole stock in trade to her own use in drels, that he could not refrain remonstrating to her hereupon.

This nettled Kitty, who had no great opinion of her father's intellects; and as he was ignorant of her high flown scheme of grandeur, she pitied his weakness in returning him silent answers. He saw every day her band boxes grow emptier, without her purse failing;—he fretted to his very soul—chid her, and at last threatened to turn her in the street. His heart wept when he uttered this severe sentence; but Kitty, who was greatly piqued at such an advertisement, resolved to throw off the parental yoke the very first opportunity that offered, and put it out of his power to repeat his menaces.

With these revolting resolutions in her mind, she went to the play, and sat next to the gay, the handsome don Cupidino. He praised her beauty and commended her wit; she approved his person, and was not displeased with his compliments. He was charmed with the beautiful innocence of her person, and she was pleased with finding a lover in an officer, and a man of his appearance and fortune.

Every compliment he paid her charms, renewed in her imagination the whole chain of successes, which the conjuror had predicted to her. This, added to the effect she began to find this handsome cavalier had upon her heart, rendered her a com-

D

pleat

pleat predestinarian, and she was thoroughly convinced her stars had thrown him in her way to make her happy.

With so favourable an opinion of her guardian angel, we need not be surprized to find she gave him greater liberties than she had ever done any before. He was now convinced she was his own, and in order to arrive at possession he told her, *he was sorry to see her charms and merit misplaced, that they were destined to shine in a much superior sphere, and begged she would permit him to take a genteel lodging, and make her the offer of his purse, 'till such time as she could do better.*

She was so entirely wrapt up in the opinion that there was no avoiding the fate, that she with very little ceremony consented, and he took her a lodging not many streets from her father's.

John was at first inconsolable at her loss, but finding the thing could not be prevented, he endeavoured to palliate it, and gave out that Kitty was married. Don Cupidino's behaviour in some measure countenanced this, as, being very fond of her, he never slept a night from her for a considerable time.

Thus like man and wife, they lived supremely happy for upwards of eight months; at the end of which time he received orders to join his regiment and go abroad, they were obliged to separate. Never was there a more affecting scene than this — Eight months enjoyment had not cloyed the
lover;

lover; he still adored her, and she tenfold repaid all his tender sentiments. She fain would have accompanied him, nay, propos'd putting on men's cloaths, and serving as a volunteer in his company; but he had too great a regard for her, and knew that the delicacy of her constitution would not allow of such an exploit.

He did not leave her without money for her supports, prote^cting the utmost constancy to her till his return. She lived in the greatest retirement for some time, seeing no company, and conversing with little else but books. The expected time of Don Cupid no's return was already elapsed, contrary winds and fresh orders had been the occasion of it, and her money was nearly exhausted.—

How extravagant did her conduct now appear to herself! *What, (said she) am I the dupe to the ridiculous prediction of a lascivious conjuror, who, to screen his guilt, has told me idle stories of grandeur and power? and have I upon so slight a foundation given up my virtue to a man, whom it is true is very amiable, but who perhaps may never more return, or at least not to my arms? I go by his name, which I ever will to the day of my death, but who believes me his wife? Alas! I have bartered every thing that is dear to me, for nonsense and fortune-telling chimeras. Banished from my father—exiled from my relations and friends—estranged*

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from

from the honest part of my sex, I must live a mounment of consummate folly unpardonable vanity, and ridiculous ambition.—Ob! that I were again cloistered in a convent, or shut from the eyes of the world—to be no longer a disgrace to myself and my parents!

These were such thoughts as occupied poor Kitty for near two months—in which time she had no connection with the world, but was considering the most probable means of extricating herself from her present dilemma.

She had yet no news from her much beloved don Cupidino; the money he had left her was entirely exhausted, and she had already begun to trespass upon her cloaths for a support; it was now high time to think of a further resource. She looked upon the conjuror's prognostications ere now in their true light, and resolved no longer to expect miracles.

Her father she imagined inexorable, and her pride would not let her submit to supplicate any of her former friends. She had frequently heard of register-offices for servants, who often obtained thereby good places; she accordingly went to the most eminent one in the capital, and registered her name and qualifications

cations for an upper-maid's place in a genteel family. A few days afterwards she got intelligence of a lady who wanted an upper servant, and she applied to be hired.

The lady enquired what place she had lived in last? to which Kitty answered, she had never been in any yet.—Who then is it to give you a character? My landlady answered, our heroine.—That will not do, replied the lady, and in so saying, left her to console herself. This same obstacle, the want of a character, still remained wherever she applied.—So hard is the fate of a young girl, who has once gone astray, and who, tho' willing, cannot regain the path of virtue, for want of some kind of real protection. Her talents and learning were also frequent objections to a place, as it could not be imagined that a person who had been so finely brought up, would condescend to do the work that would be allotted her.

Kitty began now to despair of ever getting a place. She found her cloaths diminish gradually, and that she still remained a burthen to herself, without any prospect of a change for the better.—She had still virtue enough to refrain from prostitution, but had philosophy

phy sufficient to surmount and see the difficulties of this life. She had resolved upon drowning herself, and rose one morning earlier than usual to put her design in execution. In walking along a park near the metropolis, which conducts to a famous pond for desperate lovers, she met a lady who accosted her, and enquired of her, whither she was going in such a hurry? Kitty replied, she did not know. Whether the lady suspected by her looks her errand, or retained some knowledge of her face, is not certain; but her first curiosity being still more excited by this answer, she begged of Kitty to tell her who she was. She replied, she was an unhappy girl, without either friends or money, who had come thither in order to destroy herself.

The lady counselled her against such rash resolves, and persuaded her to go home and breakfast with her. She then begged of her to give her some insight into her history, as she might, perhaps, be of service to her, and Kitty with little reserve told her the narrative of her life as it has here been related. After the lady had chid her for her imprudence, she said her father was still more to blame than her; first, for bringing her up in such an extravagant

travagant manner, without having any fortune to give her, and for having been so ridiculously fond of her, as to have refused her the adopting her for her own. This was the lady who had taken a fancy to Kitty, in her tender years.

After saying this, she told her if she would give up all thoughts of the captain, and resolve upon a virtuous life, in despite of conjurors prophecies, she would support her as her companion, which she had so long before proposed doing.

Kitty fell upon her knees, and, with a heart of deep contrition, solemnly protested she never more would think of man, but devote her whole life to please her patroness, who had so generously saved a wretch from certain perdition.

In this agreeable situation our heroine remained for some months, always accompanying the lady, who called Kitty her niece; notwithstanding all the artifices and cabals of the servants, whose jealousy made them invent the greatest falsities against her, in hopes to supplant her in their lady's favour.

Her constant employment was to read to the lady both night and morning books of piety

piety and devotion; to accompany her to church, and overlook the servants.

Don Allenzo, nephew to the lady, visited in the family, and had for some time taken notice of Kitty in a more than common manner. She was strictly upon her guard how she made any return of his attention and politeness; but as he took frequent opportunities when his aunt was out of the way, to converse with Kitty, she found herself a good deal embarrassed how to behave to him.

He told her one day, "That he had acquainted himself with all her misfortunes, and sympathized with her in the most minute part of her distress; that could he but command her attention for a few minutes, to inform her of his unhappy situation, and flatter himself she had but the most slender feeling upon the occasion, he should not only think she sufficiently requited his humanity, but the very cause of his grief would be removed."

F I N I S.

T H E
UNCOMMON ADVENTURES
O F
Miss Kitty F****r.

P A R T II.



Madrid Printed, *London* Reprinted for THOMAS
BAILEY, 1759.



T H E
UNCOMMON ADVENTURES
O F

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SO genteel and insinuating a declaration of this passion necessarily forced from Kitty kind of reply. "I am sorry, Sir, (said she) some my distress should ever give you any uneasiness; but I am still more chagined that you should have any upon your own account."

My lovely girl, (replied he) I know not whether I can properly call it upon my own account or yours.—You are still the cause of my sufferings.—I love, I adore you.—You must have perceived my frequent attentions to you alone, whilst absent from every thing else—how improperly I have answered to the most trifling questions when you were present how eagerly I have sought opportunities to open all my soul to you, and reveal the source of my distraction. I have now done it; and
out

out of charity, if not gratitude, do not tyrannize over a heart where you reign with such despotic sway.

These words forced involuntary tears from Kitty, who saw the precipice she stood over. After she had somewhat recovered herself, she begged him "not to persevere in her undoing; that if his aunt had any intelligence of his pretended passion, which the ill-natured servants would take all imaginable care to acquaint her with, she would no more look upon her; and therefore beseeched him never to think more of her again."

This was but adding fuel to his flame; he told her he could provide for her as well, and more agreeably than his aunt did, and that her displeasure would be a plausible reason for his making some provision for her.

The news of this young cavalier's frequent visits to Kitty, when alone, was presently spread in the house, and the lady's maid, who was so jealous of her, took the first opportunity of acquainting her mistress therewith. She at first believed it was the effect of envy; but being informed an appointment had been made for that afternoon, the lady told Kitty she was going to a relation of hers, and she
need

need not accompany her. The lovers were greatly pleased with this news, and were very punctual to their rendezvous. The lady returned to her closet unexpectedly, and found her nephew upon his knees at Kitty's feet.

"Is this the return ungrateful wretch! for all my generosity and benevolence?—To carry on an intrigue with my nephew under my very nose, is not to be borne, and I desire you will immediately provide for yourself elsewhere."

She therefore pack'd up her things and set out. She took a lodging not far from the market of Hay, where her lover soon waited upon her, and made such protestations of sincerity, that the regard she had for him, (which was not small) added to her present indigent circumstances, soon prevailed upon her to accept the tender of his love upon his own terms.

He made her an allowance of five guineas a week, and purchased her besides all the cloaths and trinkets she had occasion for. Never was man more fond of woman the first three months;—all was festivity, joy, and mirth. He escorted her to every public place, and though she still went by the name of her first lover, the world was credulous enough
to

to believe the ceremony had actually been performed between don Allenzo and Kitty.

She accidentally fell into company one day, with a lady at one of her faiseursdees rob whose figure, appearance, and sense, she was much taken with, and an acquaintance was soon commenced between them.

Miss S——'s advice was immediately followed by an intire revolution in Kitty's former plan of operations: she was no longer to be visited by a diversity of lovers, upon the smallest, or no introduction. Some ceremony was requisite to arrive even at her presence;—and the woman of pleasure was entirely veiled in the girl of fashion.

The gay, the amorous don Roderigo, was greatly smitten with her charms.—He followed her in public, protesting in her hearing, she was the most angelic woman eyes e'er beheld; ogled her without being seen, and wrote to her, without being answered. He found these means would not serve for an introduction, and at length discovered a person who was acquainted with her.

Kitty immediately began to perform the part she had been so lately rehearsing, but he anticipated her in every passage.—Did she
hint

hint she wanted a sum of money? it was immediately doubled and presented to her. Did she give the least token of desiring a footman? an equipage was provided her.

We now see our heroine rolling in her chariot, with her original lover's cypher upon it,——living in affluence, and dressing extravagantly gay. The eyes of all Madrid were presently upon her;—men found out charms she never possessed, and the women endeavoured to annihilate those she was mistress of.

Though don Roderigo's heart had received a great impression from Kitty, enjoyment, that infallible cure for love, soon effaced it. Prudence readily pleaded for a more economical mistress, and a run of ill luck at play rendered it absolutely necessary.

Kitty had already been taken notice of by some of the first nobility in Madrid.—Her youth and beauty, with an uncommon ease in her deportment, rendered the pretty girl a great toast. When Don Roderigo told her of his ill success, and the necessity of retrenching his expences; she advised him to do it by all means. He was at first much surprised at her approving his turning her off; but she acquainted him that the duke d'Amelo, whom

whom he had introduced to her, had made her such proposals, as nothing but a resolution of being constant to her present benefactor, had prevented her accepting.

A few days proved the reality of her assertion. This young nobleman, who was just come of age, was so extremely fond of her that he past a whole week without once quitting her company. At the end of that time he took her a new house, and compleatly furnished it for her: the waiting job which don Roderigo had hired for her was paid off, and a coach was purchased in its stead, the duke presenting her at the same time with a set of his best coach-horses.—Her servants were increased to seven, for the support of whom and herself she had a very generous allowance.

In this elevated sphere Kitty frequently reflected upon the variety of fortune she had already passed through, though but in her eighteenth year——by what accidents she had arose to grandeur, which excited the envy of her whole sex;——and the surprising prediction of the conjurer, which was already so nearly fulfilled.

Nor

Nor did she thus exalted forget the ties of kindred; her father's circumstances were at this period in no prosperous way, and his wife Kate had but an indifferent state of health: she not only constantly furnished them with provisions from her butcher, poulterer, &c. but also sent them frequent supplies of cash. This enabled John to live at his ease, and do little work, so that he had now time enough to enjoy his bottle and his friend, and animadvert upon Kitty's dutiful conduct. Kitty had two sisters and a brother much younger than herself, and having received a good education, to which she greatly attributed her success in life, she resolved they should not be behind hand with her in mental accomplishments. Accordingly, as her father could not afford to give them such an education as she proposed, she purchased them some genteel cloathing; sent her sisters to a boarding school, and her brother to an academy.

Her benefactions and generosity were not confined to her own family alone; many of her playfellows, when a child, partook of them; some she got well married to the men they liked, and set them up in trade; which with her recommendation almost ensured

fired them future success ; others she employed for herself and her family, and some were taken as upper servants in her house.

These acts of beneficence indicated a good heart, and that though her ambition and vanity, nurtured in the soil of parental indulgence, had prompted her to a vicious course of life, she had not divested herself of all mortal virtue.

Her lover was not content to enjoy his mistress in private, without the testimonies of his friends and acquaintance, to whom he frequently gave dinners and entertainments at Kitty's house. Among these was the rich don Gomez, whose age and gouty decrepitude, prevented any suspicion of his amorous intentions. When the duke went to the play or a concert, he would frequently leave don Gomez to amuse Kitty at a party of piquet.

Gomez's age and infirmity were not sufficient barriers to incontinence, excited by youth and beauty. He would frequently lay down his cards, to contemplate Kitty's charms, protesting he wished himself five and twenty for her sake,

Kitty seemed quite ignorant of the signification of what he said, and it was not till he

B

had

had explained his meaning, by that intelligible definer of all things, a round sum, that she made him any answer. A pair of diamond ear-rings and two hundred pounds in cash, had eloquence to plead his cause to a miracle, though he was loth to part with his own money for any future infructuous attempts, he told Kitty if it would be agreeable to her, he would propose to several members of the Faro club, whom he had heard profess a great regard for her, to make her an allowance out of their winnings, which if agreed to, would be very advantageous, and would soon enable her to purchase an annuity for her life. Kitty gratefully thanked him for his kind intentions to her, and told him she should be greatly obliged to him for his kind offices in the affair, if he thought it would not give offence to the duke D'Amelo her keeper. Don Gomez replied, that as his grace was also one of the members of the club, he would mention the thing first to him, and if it met with his approbation, as doubtless it would, their example would be a further promotion of the scheme.

The Faro club was a society held at this time in Madrid, at a noted chocolate house; the

the principal members were some of the first nobility of Spain, who met to amuse themselves at Faro, when a thousand or two of pistoles were generally lost at a time.

The proposal was no sooner made to the duke but he readily consented to it, and mentioned it that very night to some of the members of the club, when he thought they would the most readily come into it. Five of the members agreed immediately to the proposal, these were don Gomez, the duke D'Amelo, don Roderigo, the count de Peeporo, and chevalier de Cumaro.

These gentlemen entered into an agreement to allow Kitty five per cent. out of all their winnings; and as one or other of them never retired without winning a hundred pistoles, this settlement was upon an average worth five pistoles a day.

It may at first appear surprizing that the duke D'Amelo should relish a subscription of this nature for the support of his mistress; but it was a politic scheme in him, to withdraw himself from her, as he had just found his appetite begin to pall, and that he had not resolution enough to break with her all at once.

Whether he gained any intelligence of the intimacy between don Gomez and Kitty, or he suspected it by the proposal made by him in her favour, we cannot certainly determine; but the duke, it is plain, now thought the agreed stipend of five per cent. was a sufficient quota for his pretensions, as he henceforward made her no presents but what arose from his winnings.

Though five and thirty pistoles a week may be thought a very sufficient income for Kitty, who might not only have lived affluently upon it, but saved a competence for life; yet the thought of singularizing one of her subscribers, as soon as she found his grace had put himself upon half pay.

So that the count de Peeporo appeared to her the most likely of the five to succeed with especially as he had lately had a rupture with his lady, whom the world gave out had been intimate with another nobleman.

She accordingly laid the plan of a regular siege upon the count's desires,——She ogled, sighed, and breathed nought but love in his presence.—The covert way of his passion was already gained.—She disclosed her neck, with her pouting orbs, seemingly by accident,

dent,—and mounted the glacis of his lust.—She let drop her garter, he insisted upon putting it on.—The fortress was surprized, and the garrison surrendered at discretion.

The spoils of this conquest were three hundred pistoles in notes, which she found in a gold snuff-box, ornamented with the count's picture; besides a continued contribution of twenty pistoles a week.

Miss S——'s good advice to Kitty, though she had hitherto so little occasion to use it, was not thrown away upon her. The duke d'Amelo's abrupt coldness, after he had been such an earnest solicitor for her gaming settlement, when she was upon the very point of making the greatest advantage of his acquaintance, added to her former instruction, the maxim of 'taking time by the forelock'.

She was now resolved no longer to defer putting her tutorefs's rules in execution, and having formed the plan of obtaining a considerable sum from the duke, just as he broke with her, she imagined it would still succeed with the count, whom she thought she had sufficiently rivetted, not to be startled at the demand of a sum of money.

She

She put on a look of great sorrow the next time she saw him, and her repeated sighs convinced him something more than usual affected her.—He earnestly intreated her to inform him of the cause of her grief, for that if it was in his power, she should be immediately relieved. She still refused divulging the secret, till she had made him as melancholy in earnest as she appeared to be.

She then said, ‘ My lord, the great and tender regard I have for you, is the only reason that prevents my acquainting you with the subject of my sorrow; but as you seem to participate as thoroughly of my anguish, though unacquainted with the cause, I shall not think I transgress upon the moderation I prescribed myself, in acquainting you with it.

‘ Do, my angel, (said he) let me know, and if possible I will relieve both your and my own distress.

‘ My lord, (she replied) it is upon the single condition that you will not attempt to relieve me, that I shall acquaint you with it, as perhaps it would not only be greatly inconvenient, but also detrimental to your welfare, to assist me with so great a sum.

• If

‘ If money is all, (resumed he) I believe I can soon make you easy, for I was so fortunate as to win a thousand pistoles last night, for which I have brought you my accustomed quota.”

She was not at all displeased at this information, and though she told him five hundred pistoles was the sum she was likely to be troubled for, he sent her the next day the whole thousand he had won.

So generous a lover could not avoid forcing from Kitty grateful returns of respect and complaisance; but as her vanity and capriciousness increased with her grandeur and retinue, she could not brook the smallest denial of indulgence from her admirer. A trifling circumstance in itself, but which Kitty made a point of, had near terminated their intimacy, and Kitty was once more to be disposed of to the best bidder in the action of love.

It was this time don Cupidino, her original flame, returned from abroad; he had no occasion to enquire after Kitty, for the first equipage he met after he entered Madrid was hers. Not suspecting any acquaintance in the coach, he did not turn his eyes that way, but hers were full upon him as he passed, and she ordered

dered her coach to stop. Her footman told him his lady desired to speak with him. What was his surprize at seeing Kitty so magnificent, is more easily imagined than expressed. He got in, and after an inundation of amorous protestations on both sides, she acquainted him with all that had happened since his departure.

She now no longer thought of disposing of herself but to her dear don Cupidino, who was equally happy and content in the embraces of so fine a woman he esteemed.

Their constancy was, however, of no very long duration, Cupidino being again obliged to join his regiment, and Kitty having smitten the rich don Camelio, he wrote to her, and enclosed two bankers draughts for fifty pistoles each, which gave her a very good opinion of his generosity; a visit on his part early ensued, and a repeated present procured the desired favour.

Don Camelio was the richest of all her lovers, under Grantees, and she took care frequently to fathom the depth of his purse. In a few weeks she got from him fifteen hundred pistoles, besides a new green-varnish-vis-a-vis, accordingly to the last high taste still retaining don Cupidino's cypher. her

Her equipage was one of the most brilliant in Madrid; her house as elegantly furnished as any in that metropolis, her table as sumptuous, and her face as pretty as any woman's need to be.

It became matter of debate about this time whether or no she painted, and many wagers ensued thereupon in the Faro club. Lord Peep-ro won a thousand pistoles by wagering she did not use white; and don Roderigo won the duke D'Amelo's set of bays, by saying she did not enamel.

It is not surprising to think she was now as much the envy of the women, as she was the admiration of the men; the first could find nothing in her, the others thought Kitty centered the charms of the whole sex. The women invented fifty false reports concerning her, to make her character more odious than that of a woman of pleasure need to be. They exhausted their imaginations to render her vanity insupportable, her pride insatiable and her avarice without bounds.

The whole calumny of the sex was now exhausted upon poor Kitty; their tea-table talk was entirely concerning her, and the female visitor who could not bring in a fresh

story about her, was scarcely welcome. To these sources may we attribute the reports now current to her disadvantage. The following is in every ones mouth though their falsity is notorious.

That a certain young nobleman of the house of Castile was introduced to her, and after very little ceremony passed a night with her, and presented fifty pistoles in the morning. That he repeated his visit a few evenings after, and having no more money about him then twenty pistoles, he desired her to accept of them, which she did; but gave orders to deny her for the future to him, as she imagined he would the next time present her with twenty piastres."

The other is, that the count de Slendero was so extreemly enamoured with her, and not having sufficient cash by him to make her a suitable present, gave her all his lady's jewels, to the amount of near four thousand pistoles, which Kitty accepted, and appeared in them the same week at the play, sitting in the very box, and upon the same seat, as the countess de Slendero, who having scarce a diamond about her, and knowing her jewels again, was so extreemly disconcerted as to be obliged to leave the place before the representation was half over.

These

These stories are mentioned here, only to demonstrate to what a pitch of envy she must have wrought her whole sex, by having supplanted them in toasting, adulation, and splendor.

An accident that happened to Kitty at this juncture, gratified the spleen and envy of the whole sex for some hours. She was riding out as usual with Miss S——, and having made the tour of the upper park, adjacent to the metropolis, she descended into the lower; when a file of soldiers, who had been relieving the guard, turning abruptly upon her, frightened her horse, which ran away with her. That of Miss S—— followed the example of Kitty's pyc-bald, and they were both thrown from their seats. A group of cavaliers presently surrounded to assist them; and Kitty's first fright being over, from a fit of crying, she changed into one of laughing; though she still remained in the posture the accident had thrown her, whereby the spectators had favourable opportunity of viewing those charms which decency dictates should be hidden.

Being risen from the ground, she found she had a great pain in her hip; and her fine chair being at hand, she immediately got into

it, and was conveyed home. The report was immediately spread over the whole metropolis of what had happened to Kitty; and every one rumoured it, as their fancy or inclination suggested. Accordingly to some, she had broke her thigh, others said her leg, and very few let her off for less than a dislocated hip, but Kitty appeared at the play that night, as beautiful and gay as ever.

She receiv'd two letters upon her late Accident; but first the following epistle from FANNY ———.

Madam,

THE accident, which has lately happened to you, has made so much noise throughout Madrid, that it could not fail coming to my knowledge. Although I have more reason than any other of my sex to be piqued at your success, as you have supplanted me upon the polite theatre of gallantry; yet I have long since looked upon intrigue, and all its attendant circumstances, in their true light, and have retired from every thing that had even the appearance of criminality, to live soberly and virtuously the remainder of my days. I therefore envy no woman her success,——but pity her folly, if she does not in time, during her halcyon days, make such a provision, as may ensure her from all the necessities and calamities of past vice and folly. I

I sincerely congratulate you upon the accident being attended with no fatal consequences; and hope it may induce you to reflect upon the transitory reign of beauty and success. — Had it been attended with a broken limb, or even a less calamitous incident, your triumph would have been at an end. Fame says you gain more money than any woman that ever trod in the same path, the famous Constantia Phillipa not excepted; but that you are so extreamly poor, through imprudence, that you have scarce ever money sufficient to satisfy your domestic calls. — In such a situation, how great would have been your fall! Unfit for your calling, the men would no longer have signalized you, — and your own sex's envy would have been converted not into pity but contempt. Your ambition and misery would have kept equal pace, and prevented your attempting earning your bread. — Your friends and relations, unable to support you, could not have been induced to sacrifice their all to your vanity!

This is not the idle phantom of a distempered brain, but a real picture after nature, which experience has convinced me is neither outreed, or over-coloured. Take then this advice, from one who can have no other interest in counselling but your welfare. You have still an opportunity

nity of making a handsome provision for yourself.
—Act prudently for a while, reform, and live virtuous.

You cannot upbraid me with giving advice I cannot follow; for without ever being so advantageously situated as you are at present, and after being further plunged in vice and debauchery than ever you were, I saw my condition through the medium of reason,—long sought for an opportunity of penitence—and embraced the first that presented itself. I am,
Madam,

Your very humble servant,

Fanny M——.

The other letter Kitty received upon this occasion, was conceived in the following terms.

“DEAR MISS,

I Am extremely glad to hear that you are so well recovered from the accident which happened to you the other day; and that you are, as the French say, *quite pour la peur*.

“But did you really shew higher than your garter, Kitty? One would not have minded it, had it been to genteel people; but to make such a discovery to the canaille, is what must give you great uneasiness. I really feel for you upon the occasion,—but never mind it,

it,—remember what Queen Anne said upon the balcony.

“ You may, perhaps, imagine I am envious of your success, and would insinuate those charms were displayed, that were really hidden; but far be any such scandal from me —though you have rivalled me in my old lover,——but the settlement remains,——and that is all I care for. I am told you know your trade, and practice it as well as I ever did; and that you think with Hudibras,

——The worth of every thing

Is just as much as it will bring;

After we have fleeced our culls of all we can, we leave the mere *caput mortuum* as a monument of its own folly.

“ I have heard of your tricks, and have heartily laughed to think how well you play my game ——Take care of your cards now you have so good a hand;——but in case of a revoke, it is but cutting in with a player, as my predecessor and I have done ——It is the fashion, and I am sure you will not be out of it, except it is to be particular, as you are in every thing else, I am,

Dear Kitty,

Yours, &c,

LUCY —— ”

THE



THE
STREAM
OF
KITTY.



OW while the weaken'd of *Gaul*
Is drawing nearer to its Fall,
And only waits, from *British* *Foe*,
The last but great, decisive Blow:
Where shall the Genius of our Lands
Find Chiefs to lead her Martial Bands?
Where now are all her Men of Might,
So famous, and renown'd in Fight?

Where are her Patriots, learned and great,
That should adorn *BRITANNIA'S* State?
Are all her Friends, that well shou'd with her,
Now turn'd the Dupes of *K* — *F* — *r*?

Not all— indeed, there are a few,
Who to their Country's Int'rest true,
With Patriotic *PITT* combin'd,
Their former Glories seek to find.

But these apart, my Muse expose
Tho' opprobrious Character of Those,
Who shun *Bellona's* due Alarms,
To revel in an Harlot's Arms
Or from the *B* — *ish* Senate fly,
T' indulge a foolish Lechery;

And

And give for One Night's Lodging more
Than would maintain an Hundred Poor.

But stop, my Muse — Why, this may be
A Mark of their Humility,
To try how low they can stoop;
Pray, Muse, be not so cock-a-hoop:
Humility, you know's a Thing
That does not ill become a King;
And sure a P ———, exempt from Satire,
May have the self-same humble Nature:
If so, pray, What has he to fear
Whose Title is no more than P ——— r?

This granted, May not then his G ——— ce,
And eke my L ——— d, with simp'ring Face,
Pursue whate'er his humble Bent is,
Till dwindled to a meer Apprentice;
And bind himself to Mistress, lewd,
Quite happy in his Servitude?

'Tis pleasant in a Christian Nation,
To see Men humble in their Station:
No Pride, no lofty Mark of Power,
But each One striving to be Lower;
And He, that can the Lowest be,
Is Highest in Humility.
And can there Instance be in Nature
Of pure Humility, a Greater
Than this ——— To see a Noble P ——— r,
Stooping so much beneath his Sphere;
Forgetting Pedigree and Birth,
To grasp a Piece of Common Earth?
Their glorious Ancestors, I wot,
That bravely fought, are now forgot:
And even Title, Pension, Place,
Will soon be look'd on with Disgrace.

D

Soon

Soon ev'ry Badge of Dignity,
Wide scatter'd here and there, you'll see:
They'll give away their Stars and Garters
To Porters, Chairman, Boys, and Carters.

Wh——— *ld* rejoice,—thy Kingdom's come;
Old Men and Women sigh and humm:
Distinction now is thrown aside,
And ev'ry outward Mark of Pride:
Thy humble Scheme they'll all embrace,
And even Placemen hate a Place:
The important *Æra* come to pass is,
When great and wise Men shew their Arts;
And like thy Tabernacle Tribe,
Are petrified against a Bribe.

But Who, great Mangler of Oration,
D'ye think, shall be the Instigation;
Who bring about this pious Work,
Done, as 'twere only with a Jerk?

A Whore shall be the Instrument,
And make 'em ev'ry One repent:
A Whore! methinks I hear you cry,
And roll about your Gimblet Eye:
Does Heaven such Grace to Whore's afford!
Pour down thy Blessings on her Lord.

This, Doctor, I can make appear
For less than what you get a year:
She can, in short, she can do more,
Than ever Harlot did before.

To Her, as to a Power supreme,
The Nobles dedicate their Theme;
And from their lawful Ladies steal,
Their ev'ry Foible to reveal;
Regardless of the sacred Tye,
They quench their fulsome Lechery,

An

An Hundred buys her for a Night,
 And who shall say she is not right?
 For if his Lordship's such a Fool,
 To pay so much to be her Tool;
 What Woman would not take the Purse,
 And think her Virtue ne'er the Worse?
 An Hundred Pounds has many Charms;
 An even Modesty disarms;
 Nay, many a Pious Virtuous Dame
 Would never sure withstand the Flame,
 If once within her eager Hold
 She felt the Weight of so much Gold:
 Let *Kitty's* Fate be her's, and she
 No more will talk of Infamy;
 But would commence a Whore outright,
 To get an Hundred Pounds a Night.

Think then, ye Fair, so neat and pretty,
 Whether you would not all be *Kitty*?
 What would you give to have a Tribe
 Of D — s and L — ds, from each a Bribe;
 To see 'em bow and cringe before ye;
 Sigh, fawn, flatter, and adore ye:
 As now this envied *Kitty* reigns,
 While powder'd C — rs wear her Chains.

First on the List, advanc'd in Years,
 my L — d of ***** appears;
 And from his ancient Consort drives,
 To where this pamper'd Strumpet thrives.
 Beneath a mats of Age and Care,
 He now assumes a youthful Air:
 Humms slightly o'er an Op'ra Chant,
 And fain would be the young Gallant.
Kitty, he cries, egad I long
 To hear the musick of your Tongue;
 To clasp you in my eager Arms,
 And ravage all your blooming Charms.

D 2

Good

Good Lack ! What sparkling Eyes are there ;
Not *Venus* Self was half so fair.

Come *Kitty*, will you grant a Favour ?
(How sly she looks- I' cod, I'll have her)

What say you, *Kitty* ? She replies ;

My Noble L---d, you know my Price ;

A Hundred, Nothing less, my L---d ;

A trifling Sum, upon my Word !

A Hundred ; you shall ha't my dear ;

Here, pretty *Kitty*, take it here.

A Naval Wight succeeds in Order ;
In Truth, full resolute to board her ;
Has left at Home, his lawful Dear,
And now to *Kitty* designs to steer ;
And tho' a Great and Noble L---d,
Determines strait to go aboard.
So, Sailor-like, away he blunder'd,
And show'd a Note, 'twas just an Hundred :
my L---d, I cannot take it now :
How ! cries the Wight, how *Kitty*, how !
The Fair replies, as 'twere in rag'd,
For ev'ry Night I am engag'd ;
So, prithee, keep your fullsome Pence,
Except you'll stay a Fortnight hence.
A Fornight ! *Kitty*, is an Age ;
But do not then yourself engage.

The Fortnight passed--the Night came on,
But *Kitty* found herself alone ;
The Clock struch Twelve, my L---d ne'er came ;
This rous'd up all the Strumpet's Flame.
mean while my L---d, deep sunk in Play,
Had dwindled half the Night away ;
A Run of Luck had charm'd the Wight,
And drunk, was gone to Bed that Night,

The

The enrag'd Virago takes her Chair,
 And sweeps to A——r's with an Air:
 She there enquires for her Gallant;
 L——d ****, says the Brim, I want:
 See him I must, — He's gone to Bed;
 I'll see him then, if he was dead.
 His L—— p ope's his drowfy Eyes;
 Lord! *Kitty* is it you, he cries:
 Yes, answers she, I am come to know
 For why I am Disappointed so.
 I beg your Pardon, says the Sot;
 But on my Honour, I forgot.
 Forgot! she cries; O, did you so?
 I'll have my Hundred before I go.
 Why so you shall, replies the Cully;
 Here take this Note, you little Bully;
 To morrow then, I'll come outright;
 Do so, my L——d, Good Night. Good Night.

Refreshed with Sleep till afternoon,
 His L—— p waked, and thought it soon;
 And as the Evening Dusk came on,
 Was meditating to be gone.
 A Chair was called, away he hies,
 And *Kitty* meets him with surprize.
 Why, bless me! how comes this my L——?
 That you have so duly kept your Word?
 I thought when Drunk, and scarce awake,
 You'd surely then your Promise break:
 Besides, I am now engaged in Play;
 I prithee fix some other Day.
 No *Kitty*; nows the Time quoth he;
 Another Hundred then, says she:
 I shall not balk my Friends to Night,
 Unless I gain a Hundred by it.
 Here, take the other Hundred then,
 And make me the Happiest of men.

Thus every Day new Game she springs,
 And every Night a Lover brings.
 One Night, behold, a Heir
 In wanton Dalliance clasp the Fair!
 The next, some Goatish P——r inclines
 To quench his lecherous Designs:
 A Fribbling L — the next, worn out.
 Will have her, Spite of Age and Gout.

What means this Strange Infatuation?
 That rages at the Head of the Nation?
 Is She alone the fine st Whore
 Among, at least, an Hundred Score?
 Are there not fairer on the Town,
 That walk the Streets, and take a Crown?
 Or, is she better born than they,
 That thus she holds superior Sway?
 Look to her Breeding, and you'll see,
 Of Common Whores, as good as she.
 Is She of Great or Noble Blood?
 Support her—then your Cause were Good.
 But all that we can know of her
 Is this--She was a Milliner.
 Her Parentage so low and mean,
 Is hardly to be traced. I ween,
 Say has she Wit,—or has she Sense?
 No, Nothing, but Impertinence.
 Impertinence in her can charm,
 When real Worth would scarce alarm,
 In Truth, it is strange, it is passing strange
 That she should bring about this Change:
 And totally invert your Senses,
 With nought but specious Pretences.
 Pray, where will all this Folly end
 'Tis now high Time, I think to mend:
 And, if we give the Devil his Due,
 The Fault is not in Her but You.

A SONG

A SONG, occasioned by a late Event.

(To the Tune of KITTY FELL.)

I.

THAT *Kitty's* fair, that she is young,
 That she has danc'd, that she has sung,
 Nay, more - - we know full well;
 Let me, in humbler strain rehearse,
 What late adorn'd another verse,
 Another *Kitty Fell*.

Charming Kitty, &c.

II.

Like her the seat of every grace,
 That revels in the brightest Face,
 Or decks a modern Belie;
 May she become the fav'rite air,
 At least remind each pitying Fair
 How lovely *Kitty Fell*.

III.

No youth in Britain's happy isle,
 But felt the force of *Kitty's* smile,
 Where artful Cupids dwell:
 By her each faction stood subdu'd,
 Whig, Tory, all to *Kitty* su'd,
 Yet lovely *Kitty Fell*.

IV.

Each rank, each station, seem'd to meet.
 To lay their Wealth at *Kitty's* feet,
 Combin'd her pride to swell:
 Whilst some, for love, she would select,
 And some she honour'd with Neglect;
 Yet gen'rous *Kitty Fell*.

V.

Each croud'd Mall hath seen the fair,
 In Gilded Car, or Splendid Chair,

All other fair excel;
 Oh! had she haply been in these,
 'Tis ten to one, say what you please,
 If *Kitty* e'er had Fell,

VI.

But born on *party* colour'd Steed,
 (The knowing ones in this agreed,
 She manag'd *Party* well)
 The emblematick, vicious toad,
 Too rudely shook his lovely load,
 And lackleß *Kitty* Fell.

VII.

Blushing like morning she arose,
 Nor shall the bashful Muse disclose,
 What more of course befall;
 If ought was shewn the muse is blind,
 Nor look'd before, nor yet behind,
 When lovely *Kitty* Fell.

VIII.

That *Kitty*'s Pyebald Horse should trip,
 Or she, for once at least should slip,
 Ye Bards, the wonder tell;
 Or say, ye Fair, should prud'ry vex,
 Have none of all your Falling Sex
 Like lovely *Kitty* Fell.

F I N I S.

